

## **Innovative measuring models in the legal security system**

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### **Abstract**

This research seeks to investigate legal issues and barriers, including laws and regulations, concerning the involvement of network partners in ensuring the safety of individuals, their well-being, and property at the local level. The objective is to develop pertinent legal frameworks through a qualitative research approach involving in-depth interviews. The study findings indicate several legal challenges and obstacles to the implementation of these efforts. The research uncovered a significant issue where network partners tend to not actively participate, and most police operations are carried out under the directives of commanding officers. A critical obstacle is related to budget allocation, despite the presence of relevant laws and regulations. Many involved parties lack awareness of these legal provisions, and police officers often do not adhere to the guidelines outlined in the Royal Thai Police Regulations on Promoting Public, Local Communities, and Organizations to Participate in Police Affairs B.E. 2551. In terms of comparative legal frameworks, the legislation on public participation in policing operations in foreign jurisdictions aligns with Thailand's efforts to encourage public involvement in police affairs. This includes practices similar to Japan's community policing, allowing for tailored strategies to maintain public order and safety at the local level. Additionally, Thailand's Security Business Act of B.E 2558 corresponds to foreign laws governing private security. It emphasizes the qualifications and licensing of security personnel to support police operations. To develop relevant laws and regulations, approaches are suggested: 1) the development of measures or mechanisms to solve problems and 2) innovative measures or mechanisms about elevating the role of integrative police relations and aligning it with the Royal Thai Police Regulations. Provide training to enhance police officer competency, covering both theoretical and practical aspects of their duties to improve operational efficiency and define projects and activities related to local-level participation in securing lives, well-being, and property, ensuring alignment with the Royal Thai Police Regulations on promoting public, local communities, and organizations to participate in police affairs, facilitating the establishment of a robust security network.

**Keywords:** legal development, local participation, security of life and property

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## Introduction

Preventing and solving problems for maximum efficiency should be a collaboration between the state and the private or citizens. One strategy created in response to the prevention and resolution of crime is to involve citizens in the solution. According to a study by Khaniththa Soprasit (2020), it has been pointed out that public participation in protecting themselves from crime is the cooperation that results in a positive effect on police affairs and will result in the safety of the public and communities. However, public participation in supporting the implementation of police missions must also require the support of legislative participation since the composition and nature of the law will provide opportunities in terms of the right of citizens to participate in the process and in making legal decisions where a strategy should be developed to be the action. In addition, it can also be strengthened by laws and regulations governing public participation in legal processes, the model of the most beneficial public participation. Meechai Sicharoen et al. (2020) proposed that public participation in the prevention and suppression of crime, in the legal dimension, there is still a lack of intensity and continuity in the application of the law and regulations supporting the cooperation of the society in managing crime while the knowledge and understanding of the authorities and the public on the relevant regulations have not reached a mutual understanding to finalize. Wit Bunyalit (2017), who has studied the provision of laws to support public participation in performing the missions of police officers in crime prevention, found that the Royal Thai Police Act, B.E. 2547 stipulates that only local government and private organizations participate in such missions with police officers but there are still no provisions stipulating that local people or communities participate in the mission with police officers.

Public participation plays an important role in supporting effective security management. According to the aforementioned conditions, it can be seen that laws, rules, and regulations to encourage network partners to participate in the security of life, body, and property of people at the local level are necessary to be educated so as to know the problems and obstacles

in encouraging network partners to participate in the security of life, body, and property of the people at the local level as well as conditions and factors involved in promoting network partners to participate in the security life, body, and property of people at the local level which will lead to the development of relevant laws and regulations to be more effective. This study will be very useful in applying information to the development of policies and development plans in various dimensions on the improvement of laws, regulations, relevant channels and mechanisms in achieving the promotion of network partners to participate in the security of life, body and property of people in the future.

## Objectives

1. To study the problems and legal obstacles related to the promotion of network partners to participate in the security of life, body, and property of the people at the local level.
2. To study the laws and regulations related to the promotion of network partners to participate in the security of life, body, and property at the local level in foreign countries.
3. To develop laws and regulations related to the implementation in encouraging network partners to participate in the security of life, body, and property of people at the local level.

## Research Methodology

This study is qualitative research consisting of ; Documentary research by synthesizing information from documents, publications, laws, rules, regulations, literature, and documents including information in various forms such as print or electronic media, etc.

Qualitative research by in-depth interviews with key informants including people who join the work as partners in the network, police officers operating in the community relations from the Metropolitan Police Bureau, Provincial Police Region 2, Provincial Police Region 4, Provincial Police Region 5, Provincial Police Region 9, and officers from local government organizations in the area (operational level and management level officers). An in-depth interview form was used for interviewing the

Order	Key informant	Number (people)
1.	People working as network partners.	25
2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Police officers working in police community relations from the Metropolitan Police Headquarters.</li> <li>■ Provincial Police Region 2 Headquarters</li> <li>■ Provincial Police Region 4 Headquarters</li> <li>■ Provincial Police Region 5 Headquarters</li> <li>■ Provincial Police Region 9 Headquarters</li> </ul>	25
3.	Personnel from local government organizations in the area (Operational staff)	15
4.	Personnel from local government organizations in the area (Management level)	5
5.	Local and criminology academic justice and social administration	5
<b>Total</b>		<b>75</b>

public sector and other participating network partners using a Snowball Sampling technique with the police officers and local administrative organizations on law enforcement as well as with other scholars involved in the studied issues by defining qualifications to have a work experience for not less than 5 years and randomly sampling by Non-Probability Sampling method using a Purposive Sampling and Snowball Sampling with 75 informants.

The sub-group meetings to brainstorm consist of people joining the work as network partners, police officers working in community relations from the Metropolitan Police Bureau, Provincial Police Region 2, Provincial Police Region 4, Provincial Police Region 5, Provincial Police Region 9, and officers from local government organizations in the area (operational level and management level officers), polices from the Strategy Division Office of Royal Thai Police Office, academics in community police, local affairs, criminology and crime prevention in the community. Random sampling using Non-Probability Sampling was conducted in the meeting using a specific random method (Purposive Sampling) with 15 informants.

Regarding the steps in examining the quality of qualitative research tools (structured in-depth inter-

view), The draft in-depth interview form was given to the invited consultants and proposed the appointment of three experts in criminology and justice administration to perform an initial check to verify content coverage, edit the interview content according to the instructions to allow experts to review coverage. The accuracy and correctness of the content must be according to academic principles again and adopt to the interviews with key informants.

Data analysis was conducted using content analysis methods according to the objectives and research problems on the issues and obstacles in implementing laws and regulations related to promoting network partners to participate in the security of the life, body, and property of people at the local level, relevant laws and regulations, and factors on the development of laws and regulations related to promoting network partners to participate in the security of life, body, and property of people at the local level to process for use as recommendations based on the supporting database and facts (Evident Based Approach) including a triangulation data validation. The results of data analysis were then compiled for presentation in a descriptive approach.

## Summary

Regarding the first objective, it was found that promoting network partners' involvement in local security presents challenges. While collaboration is encouraged, it is not widespread. Several issues hinder public participation in safeguarding life, property, and well-being at the local level, including: 1) The current participation model lacks concrete processes and systematic actions. 2) Participation mainly relies on personal relationships, with inadequate volunteer recruitment. 3) Police and community leaders fail to cooperate and communicate effectively. 4) Some volunteers have limited time due to career commitments. 5) Police prioritize following orders without strategic planning for public participation. 6) Insufficient budget and disbursement obstacles exist. 7) Limited proactive efforts and relationship-building with police officers. 8) A lack of public interest and Knowledge of the benefits of participation.

Concerning the laws and regulations encouraging network partners' participation in local security, existing laws are sufficient, but most stakeholders lack knowledge and adherence to them. Training offers to enhance knowledge are often ineffective. The Royal Thai Police Regulations on Promoting Public, Local Communities, and Organizations to Participate in Police Affairs B.E. 2551 lack specific requirements for police departments to comply with participation, resulting in varying levels of proactivity. Additionally, the regulations note that security agencies should be partners, but practical details and network partners, especially youth participation, are lacking. Regarding the interviews, issues related to problems and legal obstacles related to promoting network partners participating in maintaining life safety, bodies and property of people at the local level which the details are as follows

Problems and obstacles in participating in life safety, bodies and property of people at the local level	
Participation aspect that has not yet truly participated due to time constraints, benefits, compensation, and various regulations to support	“...People who come to join us as volunteers. It may not be of 100 percent quality....In performing the duties of volunteers, the problem is no compensation. This makes the volunteers unable to fully cooperate with us...” (Informant 1)
	“...The people who join us will be those who do not have any occupation. Then I thought that I had come to live with the police. Maybe getting benefits will give him some more power in the eyes of the community ...” (Informant 1)
	“...issues in participation There is still loose cooperation. It will be difficult to help the police. We hope that 80-90% because they already have their own responsibilities to make a living...” (Informant 3)
	“...To find a united front from the public sector takes time to work together, build confidence. If he comes to help with police work, what benefits does he get? When a problem arises, is there a law to support it?...” (Informant 4)
	“...Participation, but the practice is that there is no budget. For example, if you want him to share in the allowances of those who join. If it is available, it will result in more people joining...” (Informant 6)

Problems and obstacles in implementing laws and regulations related to promoting network partners to participate in life safety, bodies and property of people at the local level	
Problems with the Royal Thai Police regulations regarding promoting citizens, communities, localities, and organizations to participate in police affairs that do not impose conditions on police agencies. Actions must be taken to follow in participation.	<p>The B.E.2551 Regulations do not establish mandatory conditions for police departments. Actions must be taken to follow in participation. Rather, it lays out a broad framework for operations aimed at the agency. Police stations have the flexibility to act according to their availability. As a result, many areas are not working as proactively as they should..." (Informant 8)</p> <p>"...Rules and regulations have no effect on the actions of those who practice them. The more organized you are, the more difficult it is to do. Makes everything go slower..." (Informant 8)</p> <p>"...The thing that practitioners are most bored with is this way of working. It does not correspond to the facts in the area but must correspond to the needs of the commander. which is not consistent with the reality in the area..." (Informant 5)</p> <p>"...Regulations that are put in place, sometimes orders or policy projects given by commanders are not consistent with the actual conditions, such as the status of personnel, budgets, and available resources in the area are not consistent..." (5th informant)</p>
Public participation work in each era depends on the leadership and interest of unit leaders and community leaders to work proactively.	"...The context of each area is different. Society in the south will have something else, in the north there will be something else. An appropriate format should give the authority of local leaders or local directors to determine the format to be conducive to the context of that urban social area..." (Informant No. 10)
Most of the problems and obstacles arise from the fact that government officials, police officers, administrative officials, or local government organizations do not have enough knowledge and understanding of the relevant regulations.	<p>"...Before the announcement, if you follow the B.E. 2551 regulations, I think it can be used reasonably well. Ordering here is like ordering snot. Because after ordering, there is no follow-up. Following up according to regulations NBTC, it will be with the participation. But the person who comes to inspect the performance is the inspector. When checking, I didn't ask what was ordered above. Inspector General of Police Inspection Form with the Strategy Office's inspection form, it heads in a different direction. Even making plans about legal matters, there are various regulations that different sides do not favor each other..." (Informant number 11)</p> <p>"...The problem therefore arises with the law: 1. Those who use it do not truly understand the law. 2. Those who are going to help use it in order to support the law do not have a manual for how to practice it..." (The informant who 20)</p>

Objective 2: The key law governing public participation in police operations in Thailand is the National Police Act B.E. 2565 (2022), which empowers local governments and engages the public and private sector. Under Section 7, the Royal Thai Police is responsible for customizing crime prevention, maintaining public order, and ensuring security to meet local needs, with involvement from local government, private sector, and the community in policymaking, budgeting, volunteering, and monitoring police operations. This allows tailored plans to uphold public order and safety in each locality or community.

The Royal Thai Police Regulations on Promoting Public, Local Communities, and Organizations to Participate in Police Affairs B.E. 2551 play a crucial role in defining and encouraging public participation in police operations. Two primary models are specified: 1) General public participation through community networks and alliances. 2) Organizational participation involving entities and private security personnel.

The goal is to promote consistent, standardized participation across the country, with each model supported by appropriate laws, rules, and regulations, fostering effective collaboration among these models and

facilitating police stations in implementing the defined standard model based on their unique circumstances.

Comparing international practices, Japan's community policing system aligns with Thailand's, involving community recruitment, training, and collaboration with local police. However, Japan's Police Act explicitly addresses community police, whereas Thailand relies on sub-regulations and guidelines. England and South Africa emphasize public participation in crime prevention, while Singapore engages private organizations. In Canada, a focus on community-driven safety plans aligns with the Royal Thai Police Act B.E. 2565 and the regulations of the National Police Policy Committee, which outline criteria and methods for promoting local and community participation in various police activities. These encompass problem analysis, decision-making, resource allocation, monitoring, and suggestions for improving police operations related to crime prevention, public order, safety, drug control, and traffic management, among others.

Objective 3: From in-depth interviews and small group meetings. The informant provided guidelines on the issues of legal development guidelines as follows:

**In terms of developing laws and regulations related to promoting network partners to participate in maintaining life safety. The bodies and property of people at the local level**

Integration with local government organizations and related agencies	<p>“...I think that the regulations here can only be enforced by the police, but their work is seeking cooperation from the villagers. It's not possible to just let the police give orders to him. There is no law to support it. In fact, I don't want it to be an order, but he knows that he must have a duty. He wants to set it up as a duty in whatever way he can set it up. The police, the administrative department, the local administrative organization. Let it be a joint duty. Let's integrate together and if we have to use the budget. Where will the budget come from?...” (Informant 1)</p>
	<p>“...Every Act that exists is, as we talked about from the beginning, still different from each other. There is still no point in forcing all involved sectors to integrate together. There is still no real cooperation...” (Informant 1)</p>
	<p>“...Some regulations we still do not allow for the community to participate. We regulate ourselves but we cannot enforce other agencies. If we pass a law that says the police will have a project, every unit must come in. I think it's OK...” (Informant 3)</p>

Promoting partnership among groups of children and youth who will play a role in working with police officers in joint thinking, joint action, and joint evaluation.	“...partner is important in order to think together and act together while operating. and participate in evaluating the guidelines. It is important for teenagers. It is necessary to create understanding for the new generation...” (Participant 3)
Establish guidelines for providing knowledge to the network to increase efficiency in working together Including the provision of welfare for both police officers and participation networks.	<p>“...additional matters of law, interaction, providing knowledge to the networks that will connect with us and he can do it whereby the police may act as chaperones will make efficiency of the agencies working together. To gain trust and making our image better above all else, continuity, clarity, connection. Sometimes in the unit there is a change of leaders in each area. Each unit wants to be coordinated with each other...” (Informant 2)</p> <p>“...To find a united front from the public sector takes time to work together. eat together build confidence We will receive information willingly...” (Informant 19)</p>
	<p>“...I would like there to be training on related laws, whether it be laws regarding participation of the public sector. or laws regarding criminal proceedings, assistance to police officers when requested by police officers Arrest Various assistance includes training in police tactics. The municipality once held a leadership training course and had villagers wear black camouflage shirts. They liked it very much. If you practice the rules around the mountain, turn left, turn right, turn back and turn, use the police regulations that we have to train them: inspecting, searching, and making arrests when reporting clues. Notification of information for each police station may be via the police station’s direct number or 191, or it can be created as a LINE group about members of the public sector network. Specified as a police volunteer, Volunteer Center of Civil Defense Department....” (Informant No. 20)</p>
	<p>“...It has been specified as a welfare benefit for police officers who carry out community relations work. It will be a source of morale and encouragement. Some people are not skilled in this field and will not work efficiently. Encourage the police to pay more attention to community relations work ...” (Informant number 20)</p> <p>“...If the officials volunteer or The OPP has specified uniforms and has a budget to cut uniforms. It will be a good morale booster for them. They have welfare and will be able to help the police a lot...” (Informant No. 20)</p>
In terms of the budget, it is necessary to plan, such as preparing a project to submit an annual budget request. By specifying a project on safety of life and property. and allow the police to participate in proposing in the annual budget every year, etc.	<p>“...In Canada there is a law. He forces his local government to use Thailand’s Local Governance. I would like to compare it to a local government organization. He said that in making the proposed projects each year There must be a project on safety of life and property. and let the police participate in proposing in the annual budget every year...” (Informant No. 12)</p> <p>“...Measures 7 allows local government organizations and private sector organizations to participate. Both in terms of policy Budget and volunteers as well as monitoring and inspecting the operations of the police...” (Informant No. 8)</p>

Objective 3, it was found that the development of laws and regulations on the promotion of network partners to participate in life security of life, body, and property of people at the local level include 2 approaches, namely ;

1. Development of measures or mechanisms to solve the arising problems, consisting of;

1.1 preparation of content regarding budget sources by categorizing the “promotion fund and the support of public participation in police affairs” In doing so, the background or source of income of the fund should be specified while the committee should be appointed to regulate the type of spending and other relevant conditions so that the fund can be a source of funds for other expenditures to take proper action without having to rely on other sources such as requesting funding from local government organizations, etc. However, there is a remark on this issue that it should have supervision and inspection of funding in the matter of disbursement to be transparent and without defrauding in spending for other irrelevant projects.

1.2 The content regarding the participatory process in the regulations should be clearly defined so that participation will allow the public to participate from the recognition of information and facts, consultations, and action plan drafting, to defining the extent of joined consultation and implementation including evaluation and inspection for the development including a framework for hearing the feedback.

1.3 The participation model can be developed using modern technology to be more diverse, such as participation in the form of sharing information through online communication or through discussion or presentations using digital media which can be used to develop the participation at different levels. These may be defined as conditions and methods to be relevant regulations for implementing into a flexible and consistent form of participation, including allowing the public to participate in various directions which will encourage and promote new generations to

be able to participate more increasingly.

1.4 Develop better communication between the police and the community and within the community through action groups, newsletters, etc. Guidelines for communication between the police and the community can be stipulated in the law as guidelines. In addition to providing facts and knowledge, it will also help align the public’s attitudes toward the police in terms of collaboration and operations.

2. Innovative measures or mechanisms

2.1 Plans or programs required for participation. There should be a provision stating the police stations to ensure that the opportunity is provided to the public in participating the operation to the extent that laws and regulations allow to implement effectively to prepare and correct or review any necessary plans or programs In action, whereas 1) people are notified whether by public announcement or other suitable approaches such as electronic media with respect to any offers for such plans or programs or for correction or revision and relevant information about the offer that has been made public including other information on the rights to participate in decision-making and about competent authorities that may submit comments or questions 2) people have the right to express their opinions and all opinions should be disclosed and published before deciding on plans and programs 3) in making those decisions, the results of public participation must be considered 4) opinions expressed by the public must be examined and informed to the public regarding the decisions taken and the reasons and considerations which are the basis of those decisions including information about public participation processes. The arrangements for public participation will be determined by the member states so that the public can prepare and participate effectively. An appropriate time frame must provide sufficient time for each public participation stage as required by laws.

**2.2 Preparation of Participatory Budgeting Strategy** - In the development of public participation laws in many countries, it is stipulated that in various processes to request the budget, such projects must include details of public participation according to the actual processes prior budget approval process since it is the method and guideline that allow the state to spend the budget under the public perception as well.

## Discussion

Public participation is an issue that has been demonstrated in the study of legal problems and obstacles related to the promotion of network partners to participate in the security of life, body, and property of people at the local level, which found that the participation was literally in a manner of the non-participation model. In participating, most of them use a personal relationship approach in joining which is a form of participation in operations that does not achieve joint thinking and decision-making which will lead to the empowerment of the people under the understanding of the participation model of network partners in the security of life, body, and property of people at the local level. In the dimension of such participation, it is considered one of the factors affecting the safety of life, bodies, and property of people at the local level having its efficiency to be still inefficient. As such, for the development of a network of cooperation to achieve true participation, there should be a gathering of people or organizations with similar activities, goals, problems, and with having activities developed together and constant coordination and meetings regularly and defining rules of cooperation and mutual assistance on the basis of independence. Therefore, it is necessary to provide guidelines for the development of strategies to achieve sustainable cooperation. Vikran Phuakmongkol (2016) stated that risk prevention awareness in life and property to individuals should be promoted in encouraging awareness for the community to recognize the value of risk prevention in life and property at the community level, which will help reduce the risk in life and property of individuals and communities. In the dimension of building a rela-

tionship between police officers and the public, which is a problem and an obstacle in encouraging network partners to participate in the security of life, body, and property of people at the local level, Pimporn Pathawee and Pongkulthorn Rotwirun (2021) advised that police agencies should focus on building a network of members and develop a training model for people in the area more increasingly. And Chanawan Yampreritsri and Wanlop Rattachatranon (2019) mentioned the issues that people should perform a guard duty to patrol and maintain peace and order in the community and attend meetings with neighbors to demonstrate useful comments and suggestions on the prevention and solving of crime including participating in informing news clues for the arrest of offenders. For the level of cooperation with the police, Pattawit Saengmukda (2017) proposed a guideline for developing participation in crime prevention through traffic radio media, participation in crime prevention using traffic radio programs for society and taxi drivers to gain whereabouts on the causes of crime and create a network of cooperation among taxi drivers together in preventing crime.

Regarding the above proposals of Chanawan Yamphresri and Wanlop Rattachatranon (2019) and Pattawit Saengmukda (2017), they are consistent with the development guidelines for laws and regulations related to the promotion of network partners to take part in the security of life, body, and property of people at the local level as proposed to define the content of the participation process in the regulation to be clear. This is for the public to participate from the recognition of information, facts, consultations, and action plan drafting process including determining the extent of consultation and collaboration including evaluation and inspection for development and preparation of a framework for public hearings afterward to the utilization of technology to develop a more diverse form of participation. And it is for creating better communications between the police and the community and establishing a joint community safety plan so as to create a role in co-thinking and sharing of the benefits including setting a common direction and goals and creating and recognizing the practice guidelines between the network and the police to be in the same direction.

In addition, there are suggestions for promoting effective communication to create knowledge, understanding, and working together in an orderly way including the application of technology to improve efficiency in joint operations according to Lab (2006) who suggested that the police must provide a good quality of services and information and communication technology for efficient and rapid crime control. Giessen & Bayerl (2022) also proposed an online platform as an effective way for police forces and citizens to engage with each other, particularly in the context of a citizen-focused preventive maintaining approach to protecting the community where the application of an online platform will encourage online mobility together.

## New Knowledge

In this study, a guideline for the development of laws and regulations on the promotion of network partners to participate in the safety of life, body, and property of people at the local level was proposed in 2 ways with the aim for relevant agencies to drive the proposed approaches to become concretely implemented, namely; 1) development of measures or mechanisms to solve problems which must include the content regarding budget sources by categorizing them as "promotion fund and support for public participation in police affairs." And there should define the content of the participation process in the regulation to be clear so that the process allows the public to participate from the recognition of information, facts, consultations, and action plan drafting process including determining the extent of consultation and collaboration including evaluation and inspection for development and preparation of a framework for public hearings afterward to the utilization of technology to develop a more diverse form of participation. In addition, there should arrange a joint community safety plan between municipalities or local authorities with police officers for better communication between the police and the community 2) innovative measures or mechanisms should contain a provision stating that police stations must assure that citizens are given the opportunity to participate in the operation to the extent that law and regulations allow and for the

effectiveness in joining for preparing and amending or reviewing plans or programs necessary to carry out so that the public can prepare and participate effectively. This includes the preparation of a participatory budgeting strategy and specifying the public participation in police affairs directly in the law.

## Suggestions

According to the results, the researcher has the following suggestions:

### Policy Recommendations

Public safety agencies should stipulate the policy to encourage network partners to participate in the security of life, body, and property of people at the local level to create a concrete approach that consists of plans, projects, key and cooperation agencies including guidelines for budget allocation to achieve efficiency in joint operations.

### Suggestions for applying the research results

1. The integrative police relations role should be elevated together with the Royal Thai Police Regulations on Promoting Public, Local Communities, and Organizations to Participate in Police Affairs B.E. 2551 so as to create a network of the security of life, body, and property of people at the local level to be concretely implemented and initiated at the provincial level.

2. There should be training to develop police officer competency, with the training and reviews of rules and regulations on the duties, both theory, and practice should be offered to increase work efficiency.

3. The project and activities related to the security of life, body, and property with participation at the regional level should be defined to achieve the process of building a network of the security for life, body, and property of people at the local level and to be consistent with the Royal Thai Police Regulations on Promoting Public, Local Communities, and Organizations to Participate in Police Affairs B.E.2551

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